

**REMARKS**

Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I, drawn to an apparatus and method for preparing a sample for PCR.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the non-elected claims in one or more divisional applications.

**CONCLUSION**

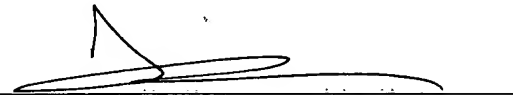
Applicants respectfully request examination on the merits of this application. Should there be any questions concerning this application, Examiner Bowers is invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date March 15, 2006

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP  
Customer Number: 22428  
Telephone: (202) 295-4141  
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy M. Rocklin', is written over a horizontal line.

Amy M. Rocklin  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 47,033